

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT:

This report pertains to an investigation of the identification of the burial location, or headstone markings, of a member of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) during the Great War 1914-1921.

SUBMITTED TO:

[CWGC Canadian Agency](#)

66 Slater Street

Suite 1707

Ottawa Ontario Canada K1A 0P4

Att: [Dominique Boulais](#)

Report Date: 23 March 2016

Reason for Submission: ("X" means purpose of the report)

Casualty Identification:		Burial Information:	
Confirmed Identity	X	Burial Location Identified	X
Most Probable Identity		Grave Stone Correction	
Questionable Identity		Grave Records Correction	X
Incorrect Identity		Request for CWGC Details	
Other		Other	

Supporting Documents: (# refers to attachment number; "I" information provided)

Casualty Identification:		Burial Information:	
Monk, Stanley Harold	i	Rue-Petillon Military Cemetery	link
5 th Infantry Battalion	i	Pas de Calais, France	i
Private #440187	i	Plot 2 Row D Grave 47	i
Death 16 August 1917	link	Date of Burial / Exhumation	i
Attestation Papers (A40187)	link	Cemetery Schematic	link
Service Record	n/a	Graves Registration Report	6
Circumstance of Death	1	Concentration of Grave	7
CEF Canada Register	2	Headstone Register	
War Diary Extract(s)	3a,b,c	Casualty Spreadsheet	
Area Map(s)	4	Trench Map Exhumation	
Trench Map(s)	5	Grave Stone Photograph	
Possible Candidates List		Grave Stone Inscription	
Excluded Candidates List		Memorial Inscription/Photo	
Other		Reporting and Review	8

Summary of Findings:

The Graves Registration Report form for Plot 2 Row D Grave 47 of the Rue Petillon Military Cemetery lists an Unknown Canadian Soldier with a Registration Number 440187 (same as A40187).

The research is clear that the remains in this grave are those of Private Stanley Howard Monk #440187 of the 5th Canadian Infantry Battalion, who was lost at that location during the Battle of Hill 70 in August 1917.

Details of Findings:

The findings are conclusive that the remains in Plot 2 Row D Grave 47 are those of Private Stanley Howard Monk #440187 of the 5th Canadian Infantry Battalion, who was lost at that location during the Battle of Hill 70 in August 1917. Although the Regimental Number was recorded, it was not traced to Private Monk. This appears to be an understandable administrative error as even to this day (March 24, 2016) his name does not appear in the Canadian database under that number. Instead it appears as #A40187, a series that was later changed to #440187. To ensure that there is no question as to this identity, we have undertaken the research to prove these are his remains.

The findings are based on the following:

1. The *Circumstance of Death* (COD) file for Private Monk #440187 reports that he was killed in action on August 16, 1917 "*whilst taking part in the attack at Hill 70, Lens, he was hit in the head and instantly killed by an enemy rifle bullet*" (Attachment #1).
2. The *E-13 War Graves Register* (WGR) reports #440187 was killed in action on 15 August 1917, which was later corrected to 16 August 1917. His body was not knowingly recovered and identified for burial, thus his name was added to the Vimy Memorial (Attachment #2). The change of the date to August 16th from August 15th is important as it shows the remains were recovered where the 5th Battalion was on that date.
3. The War Diary of the 5th Infantry Battalion of the 2nd Infantry Brigade, 1st Canadian Division clearly shows that the 5th Battalion was in active combat in the area where the remains were recovered (Attachment #3). The 5th Battalion was already in the vicinity on August 13th when they formed up in **36c.N.2** sector. The 5th Battalion relieved the 8th Battalion on the front line on the evening of August 15th under heavy German fire from Cite St. Auguste from **36c.N.3**. Several enemy counter attacks happened over the night and during the day of the 16th until the 5th Battalion was relieved on the night of the 16th. All of this occurred in the sector where the remains of Private Monk were retrieved. Note that references to map **44a** or **36c** are the same map.
4. The overall area where the 5th Battalion made their advance is depicted in an extract of Nicholson Map 12 for the attack on Hill 70 by the Canadian Expeditionary Force (Attachment #4). As detailed in the war diary, the 5th Battalion moved in concert with the 8th Battalion in a leap-frog motion over the Blue Line until they reached the Green Line on the west perimeter of Cite. St. Auguste. It is here that the remains of Private Monk were recovered.
5. A period Trench Map from the UK National Archives illustrates the details of the movement of the 5th Battalion through Sector 36c.N.2 to the Green Line where the remains were recovered (Attachment #5). From this placement, we know that Private Monk paid the ultimate sacrifice in the later stages of the battle, precisely where the 5th Battalion was located on August 16, 1917.

6. The *Graves Registration Report Form* (GRRF) clearly shows that the Canadian soldier that fell and was buried in Plot 2 Row D Grave 47 was identified as carrying identification for #440187 (Attachment #6). As we know from prior research on the files of Lts. Wylie and McDonald and 2nd Lts. Kipling and Law, this was in the same area where the British were involved in the September 1915 Battle of Loos. UK Rifleman P. H. Meads was recovered in that same area and is buried in Plot 2 Row D Grave 44. Canadian's were not involved in the prior activity in 1915, thus unlike the British units, removes any date conflicts.
7. The *Concentration of Graves (Exhumations and Reburials) Burial Return* (COG-BR) provides precise details as to where the remains of Private Monk #440187 were exhumed (Attachment #7). He was found at the Green Line at trench map coordinates **44a.N.2.b.6.3**, exactly where the 5th Battalion was placed on August 16, 1917. He was discovered with another Canadian at the same location but there are no means to identify those remains. There is no doubt from the information on the COG-BR that it is the body of Private Stanley Monk #440187 that is buried in Plot 2 Row D Grave 47 of the Rue-Petillon Military Cemetery. His identity perhaps unknown as the records still showed his registration by the old number #A40187.

Action Required:

The "Investigative Report" has been prepared in accordance with the procedures and criteria set out by the CWGC, should they wish to make any changes to the commemoration details (Attachment #8).

The analysis of the evidence is conclusive that the remains in Plot 2 Row D Grave 47 at the Rue-Petillon Military Cemetery are those of Private Stanley Harold Monk #440187 of the 5th Canadian Infantry Battalion who fell at the Green Line on August 16, 1917.

ATTACHMENT #1

1. NO.	2. RANK OR RATING	3. SURNAM	4. CHRISTIAN NAMES
440187	Private	MONK	Stanley Harold
5. UNIT OR SHIP	6. DATE OF CASUALTY	7. H.Q. FILE NO.	8. RELIGION
5th. Battalion	16-8-17	649-M-22074	Church of England
9. CIRCUMSTANCES OF CASUALTY.			
"KILLED IN ACTION" Whilst taking part in the attack at Hill 70, Loos, he was hit in the head and instantly killed by an enemy rifle bullet.			
10. LOCATION OF UNIT AT TIME OF CASUALTY			
NOTE: Items 15, 16 and 17 are not to be completed until grave is permanently located.			
12. CEMETERY	13. LOCATION OF CEMETERY	14. GRAVE LOCATION	15. REGISTERED NO. OF GRAVE
		Grave..... Plot..... Row.....	
16. PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE TAKEN	17. REFERENCE NO.	18. PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE AND CEMETERY SUPPLIED TO	
19. FURTHER PARTICULARS ON REVERSE SIDE OF SHEET.			

RG.

ATTACHMENT #2

FORM E-13
975K - 10M - 4-6-17.

E-13.

34191

NUMBER 440187 RANK Private NAME MONK, S. H.

UNIT 5th Battalion. NEXT-OF-KIN (Sask Regt)

FILE NO. R.L. 25-M. 5547

DATE OF DEATH	CAUSE AND PLACE OF DEATH	CAS. SHEET NO.
15/16-8-17.	Killed in Action	A 732
16-8-17	Correct Date.	A. 71.

DATE OF BURIAL	PLACE OF BURIAL	DESCRIPTION OF GRAVE.
	VIMY	
	MEMORIAL	

ATTACHMENT #3(a)

5th. CANADIAN INFANTRY BATTALION (WESTERN CAVALRY).

REPORT ON OPERATION OF AUGUST 14th. - 18th. 1917.

Reference MAPS.

LENE
LOOS.

21

On the night of August 13th., the 5th. Canadian Infantry Batta. relieved the Right half of the 4th. C.I.Bn., in the Front line of the Loos Sector; the Frontage taken over extending from N.I.c.7.7½. to N.I.a.4.4½. This was our Battalion's Frontage. "D" Company held the Right half of the Front Line and "C" Company the Left half of the Front Line. "A" Company were in Battalion Support in Harrison and Hart's Craters, and "B" Company in Reserve in Haymarket Tunnel.

During the previous weeks a great deal of work had been done in this sector, clearing out trenches and dugouts, burying cables, and building up Battalion and Company Dumps. This work was now all completed, and everything was in readiness for the assault.

The day of the 14th. passed quietly, and there was very little shelling of our position by the enemy's artillery, although our own artillery kept showering a steady stream of explosives on the enemy's country.

At dusk on the 14th. Battalion Headquarters moved into a dug-out in Bug's Alley at N.I.a.1.1, and Regimental Aid Station to an adjacent dugout. At 12.00 midnight, the Companies commenced moving forward to their jumping off position, section by section, until about 3.00 a.m. on the 15th. the Battalion was all located, dug in and ready for the attack.

As the enemy had been putting his practice barrage on our Front Line, it was decided to dig-in 75 to 100 yards in front of this line. "D" Company, under Captain Willis was on the extreme right, and "B" Company, under Major Hedley immediately in their rear. "C" Company, under Lieut. Lloyd was on the Left flank, and "A" Company under Lieut. Foulkes immediately in their rear.

The Battalion was to attack on a two company frontage, in two waves of two lines each. "C" and "D" Companies were to capture the German Front Line, and "A" and "B" Companies were to go through them and capture the Blue Line, when "C" and "D" were to mop up the ground between the German Front Line and the Blue Line. The 8th. C.I.Bn. were then to go forward to the Red and Green Lines, while the mopping up parties detailed by "A" and "B" Companies were to clear the ground between the Blue and Red.

At 3.30 a.m. Lieutenant Osler who was in charge of No.12 Platoon, "C" Company, was wounded, and Sergeant Oldham took charge.

Sharp at 4.25 a.m., the barrage opened up and the attack was launched. Two minutes afterwards, the men began to advance, and the German Front Line was taken with very little enemy opposition and very few casualties. A Light Machine Gun was captured by Sergeant Squires, and the crew disposed of by making them stretcher bearers. A converted Lewis machine Gun was also captured in the German Front Line.

Lieutenant Walsh, who was on the extreme Right flank, had been ordered to take care of Nelson C.T. and Dynamite House, in the event of the 5th. C.I.Bn. reaching there in advance of the 22nd. C.I.Bn. This happened, and Lieutenant Walsh was wounded by a sniper while bombing Dynamite House. A/C.S.M. Morrison of the same company was killed at this place, after having done splendid work in getting the men into position and keeping them in the formation they went over.

"C" and "D" companies having taken their objectives, dug-in about 40 yards past the old German Front Line, which was afterwards heavily shelled by the enemy. "A" and "B" companies, following up the barrage had a large number of casualties from Machine Gunns Fire before reaching their objective. As they approached the Blue Line, a number of Germans jumped from it as soon as our barrage had passed, and attempted to retire, but only caught up with our barrage, and running into it, were exterminated.

ATTACHMENT #3(b)

- 2 -

The Hun kept up a heavy Machine Gun and Trench Mortar Fire from this Line until the last minute. Luckily the wire was well cut, and the point was ultimately gained. "A" company captured some 30 prisoners, 2 Machine Guns and 2 Medium Trench Mortars in this line, while "B" company captured a recent pattern Machine Gun, a Vickers-Maxim Machine Gun which had evidently been previously captured from the British, a heavy "Sausage" Minnwerfer, and another Minnwerfer after the pattern of our 3" Stokes Gun. 23

The casualties sustained in capturing this line were about 125 men.

Shortly after the line had been taken, and the work of consolidation started, the enemy commenced shelling it, and from then on, gave the line no peace.

Lieutenant Dundee, the Intelligence Officer went forward with seven signallers and several scouts, and established an advanced Battalion Headquarters in Netley Trench at N.I.B.5.7. Repeated attempts to keep up telephonic communication were made, but it was impossible, and messages had to be sent by runners, whom, from this time on, worked day and night with the utmost fearlessness between Battalion Headquarters and companies, passing and repassing through heavy barrage fire.

The Barrage played in front of the Blue Line half an hour, when it lifted, and the 8th. C.I.Bn. passed over the 5th. C.I.Bn. to take the Red and Green Lines.

"A" and "B" Companies worked steadily, consolidating the new position, while parties from "C" and "D" companies rushed up Grenades and Ammunition.

The Battalion Reserve Party of 52 men under Lieutenant Ross started out immediately after the launching of the attack and acted as Stretcher bearers. They collected all German prisoners, and, loading them with stretchers, commenced the work of evacuating the wounded, and from then on, until we were relieved on the night of the 17th. August, worked continuously, and it is apparent that Lieutenant Ross and his gallant men saved many lives and played an important part in the operations. They took up water, bombs and ammunition, and brought back the wounded, passing and re-passing through a heavy barrage fire, until, at last, when relieved, Lieutenant Ross and 12 men were all that remained of the original 52 men.

On the 15th. August "B" Company sent two bombing parties to the 8th. C.I.Bn. who were to attack the Green Line at 4.00 p.m. Zero hour was postponed till 5.00 p.m. and then, owing to the 8th. Battalion deeming themselves too weak in numbers to attack, it was again postponed.

On the evening of August 15th. "A" and "B" companies relieved the 8th. Battalion in the Front Line, and "C" and "D" companies moved up the Blue Line.

German Snipers were very busy from the brickworks and houses in Cite St. August and Fosse 14 bis, and a number of casualties were caused by them.

During the days of August 15th. and 16th. and particularly on the early morning of the 16th., German aeroplanes were very active, flying at an extremely low altitude, and firing on parties of our men, spotting our new positions, and registering their batteries on them. Our planes flew much higher and part of the time did not appear to interfere with the Hun machines, nor make any attempt to hinder their operations. By means of his planes, the enemy probably located our positions much sooner than he would otherwise have done, and directing his artillery fire on us, caused heavy casualties and greatly hindered the work of consolidation.

During the night of August 15th., the enemy counter-attacked several times, but each time was driven off by our artillery and M.G. fire. On August 16th. orders were issued for "A" and "B" companies to advance up Hoggin C.T. and other C.T.'s to the south of it, and from there go to the Green Line. "C" and "D" Companies were to move up and occupy/

ATTACHMENT #3(c)

-2-

occupy the RED LINE. ZERO hour was set for 4.00 p.m. ²³
Major Healey of "B" Company became a casualty shortly before
Zero hour, being ~~packed~~ by a sniper, and Lieut. McConnell
of "D" Company was sent up in his place.

At 4.00 p.m. the assault commenced and after some very
stiff fighting and continuous bombing the GREEN LINE was taken
and some 50 prisoners and a number of machine guns captured.

Grenades and ammunition were at once rushed up, but
owing to the communication trenches being obliterated, heavy
machine gun fire and sniping, the greater proportion never
arrived at its destination.

The enemy counter-attacked at 4.00 p.m. and from then ~~it~~
on it was a continual counter-attack, all of which were beaten
off till about 5.30 p.m. when the supply of grenades and
ammunition ran out and "A" and "B" Companies now numbering
six and nine men respectively were compelled to withdraw
175 yards east of the railroad. Lieut. Grant, who had a
leg broken and other wounds refused to let them carry him,
and commenced to crawl back in company with his batman.
this was the last seen of him. Capt. Willis of "D" Company
also became a casualty about this time.

At 6.30 p.m. reinforcements and grenades were again
received by "A" and "B" Companies and posts pushed out to
within 100 yards of the railway which was as far as it was
possible to go as the men were then quite close to their
own barrage.

On the night of August 16th the Battalion was relieved
by the 4th C.I. Battalion and moved back to the BLUE LINE,
which was named the night of August 17th, when we were
relieved by the 1st Canadian Infantry Battalion and moved
back to LES BEEBIS.

The work of all ranks during those trying days reached
every expectation and the manner in which the N.C.O.s took
hold of their Units when the Officers became casualties was
splendid.

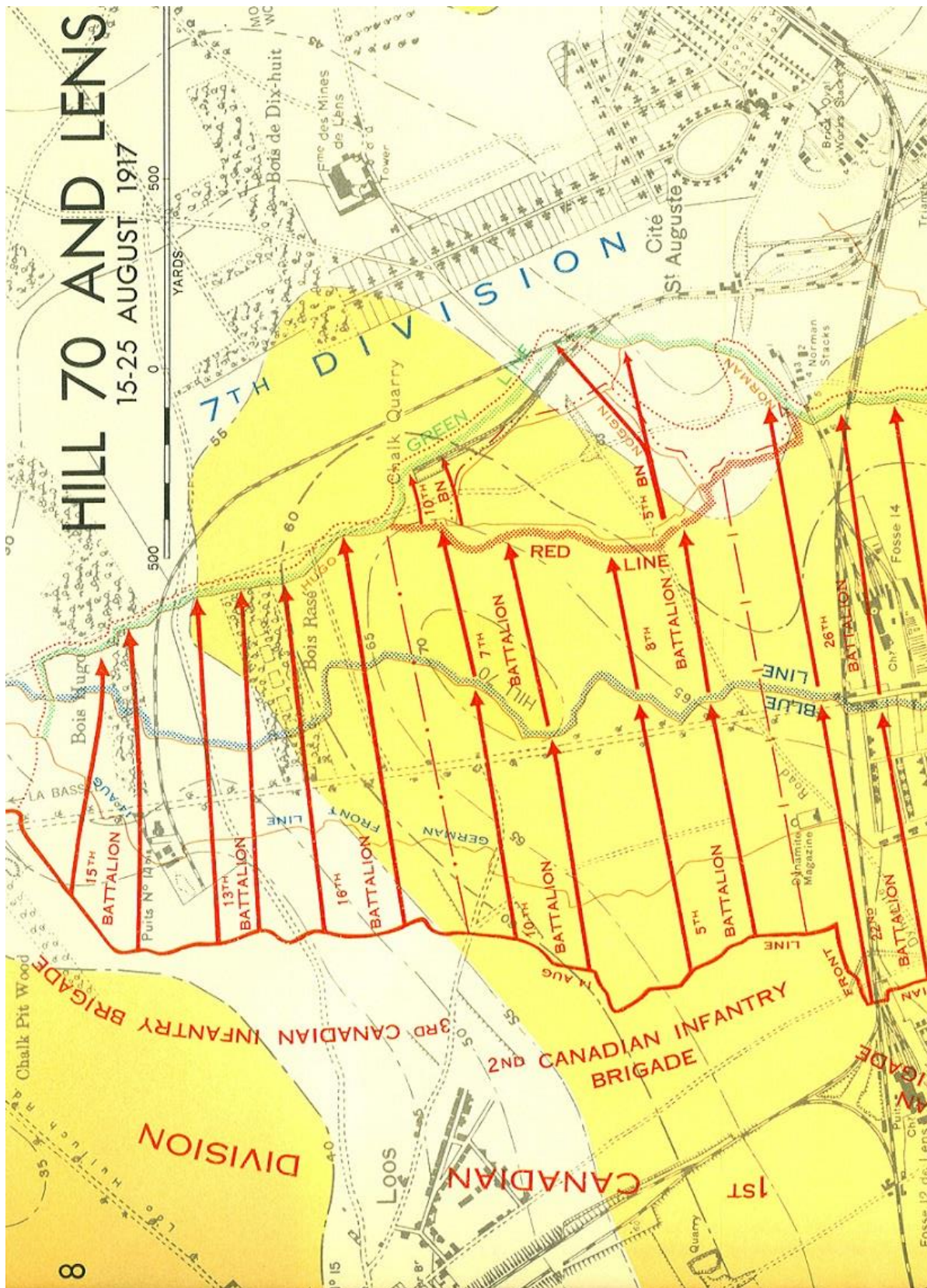
The casualties amounted to 13 Officers and 352 other
ranks.

It was impossible to maintain telephone communication
forward of our old front line, and for this reason the extreme
necessities of the people up there were not known until an
hour or so after, and I would suggest that if at all possible
small portable wireless outfits should be carried by Units
going into action, as I believe that if direct and immediate
communications are maintained the work of taking and holding
a position would be facilitated by 90 per cent.

R. L. Conroy.

Major & Adjutant,
5th Canadian Infantry Battalion.

ATTACHMENT #4



ATTACHMENT #5



ATTACHMENT #6

REVISED COMPREHENSIVE REPORT. 1-3-24. Army Form W. 3372.

GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.

No. 2. Area. I.W.G.C. REPORT No. 2. SCHEDULE No. 480. *REV.*

PLACE OF BURIAL RUE PETILLON MILITARY CEMETERY. *FLEURBAIX*

COMMUNE: FLEURBAIX.

Map Reference Sheet. 36.N.3 b. ^{6.3.} ~~4.1.~~

This Revised Report cancels all previous Reports.

The following are buried here:—

Regiment	No.	Name	Rank and Initials	Date of Death	Cross Erected or G. R. U'd.	Plot, Row and Grave
		PLOT. 2. ROW. ¹ D.				Grave No. L. - R.
The Buffs.		UNKNOWN BRITISH	SOLDIER.		ALL	29. ✓
		UNKNOWN BRITISH	SOLDIER.			30. ✓
		UNKNOWN BRITISH	SOLDIER.			31. ✓
		UNKNOWN BRITISH	SOLDIER.			32. ✓
		UNKNOWN BRITISH	SOLDIER.			33. ✓
		UNKNOWN BRITISH	SOLDIER.			34. ✓
		UNKNOWN BRITISH	SOLDIER.			35. ✓
		UNKNOWN BRITISH	SOLDIER.			36. ✓
Royal H'ldrs.		UNKNOWN BRITISH	SOLDIER.			37. ✓
1/5.R. Sussex.		2551 PARKES. U.B.S.	OFFICER.		<i>6/11/2053</i>	38. ✓
7/Kings.		UNKNOWN BRITISH	SOLDIER.			39. ✓
		UNKNOWN BRITISH	SOLDIER.			40. ✓
Rifle Bde.		UNKNOWN BRITISH	SOLDIER.		CROSSES	41. ✓
"B" Coy.		MORGAN. U.B.S.	SOLDIER.		<i>EFH/12052</i>	42. ✓
		UNKNOWN BRITISH	SOLDIER.			43. ✓
12/Rifle Bde	<i>8/</i>	3513 MEADE.....	REF. P.H.	<i>25.9.15</i>	<i>EFH/12051</i> <i>6/25-2-24</i>	44. ✓
R.B.		UNKNOWN BRITISH	SOLDIER.			45. ✓
		UNKNOWN CANADIAN	SOLDIER.			46. ✓
202/Canadians.	440187	UNKNOWN CANADIAN	SOLDIER.		<i>RU/54687</i>	47. ✓
		UNKNOWN CANADIAN	SOLDIER.			48. ✓
		UNKNOWN BRITISH	SOLDIER.			49. ✓
		UNKNOWN CANADIAN	SOLDIER.			50. ✓
		UNKNOWN BRITISH	SOLDIER.			51. ✓
7/N.S. N'ham's Regt.	15617	... U.B.S.			ERECTED. <i>6/11/2049</i> <i>29.4.24</i> <i>28.17.524</i>	52. ✓

ENTERED
CLIPS CHECKED

(6 31 5) W3160—P2723 100,000 9/19 HWV(P1C24) Forms/W3372/3

ATTACHMENT #7

PRINTED BY PLATES BY ARMY PRINTING AND STATIONERY SERVICE

FLEURBAIX 2-88E

6/2387

28-7-22.

2/K.31.

28-7-22.

ALL TROSSES ERIGED AND 6 CONCENTRATION OF GRAVES (Exhumation and Reburials). 2/K.31.

CHECKED.

BURIAL RETURN.

NAME OF CEMETERY OF Reburial RUE PETILLON M.C. SHEET 36.N.3.b.4.1.

Plot	Row	Grave	Map Reference where body found	Was cross on grave?	Regimental particulars	Means of Identification	Were any effects forwarded to Base?
52	D	846	44a.N.2.b.6.3.	No.	U.CAN.SOLDIER.	Clothing Numerals.	No.
52	D	747	--do--	"	440187. U.CAN.S.	Ground Sheet & Numerals. E.F.K.12049 P	Gold Teeth. E.F.K.12049 P
52	D	848	44a.H.32.d.2.9.	"	U.CAN.S. 202/Canadians.	Clothing Numerals.	Ring. E.F.K.12049 P
52	D	849	44a.N.1.b.6.6.	"	U.B.S.	Clothing.	"
52	D	1850	44a.H.32.d.2.9.	"	U.CAN.S.	" Numerals.	"
52	D	1151	44a.H.1.b.7.6.	"	U.B.S.	Clothing.	"
52	D	1282	44a.G.5.a.Cent.	"	15817. Pte. A. S. HEDDER. U.B.S.	Spoon. Clothing. Numerals.	Spoon. E.F.K.12049 P
52	D	1353	44a.G.5.a.Cent.	"	14985. 7/WORTHINGTON. U.B.S.	-ditto-	Spoon. E.F.K.12049 P
52	D	1454	44a.A.28.a.4.2.	"	U.B.S.	Clothing.	No.
52	D	1555	44a.A.28.a.4.2.	"	U.B.S.	"	"
52	D	1656	44a.A.28.a.4.3.	"	U.B.S.	"	"
52	D	1757	" " " "	"	U.B.S.	"	"
52	D	1858	" " " "	"	U.B.S.	"	"
52	D	1959	" " " "	"	U.B.S.	"	"

Imperial War Graves Commission. No. 2 AREA

Imperial War Graves Commission. No. 3 AREA

Imperial War Graves Commission. No. 4 AREA

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Imperial War Graves Commission. No. 99 AREA

Imperial War Graves Commission. No. 100 AREA

This form to be made out in triplicate, two copies being handed to the D.A.D. (C. of G.) and the other retained by the Burial Officer.

ATTACHMENT #8

This “*Reporting and Review*” attachment is provided to assist all parties in the submission of an investigative report related to the identification of the burial location, or headstone markings, of a member of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) during the Great War 1914-1921. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) receives a copy of this report in the event they wish to make changes to the commemoration details. In order to alter the records, the CWGC has set out their criteria for the procedure and submission of cases for review, as detailed below. The CWGC is under no obligation to make changes based on a report.

Procedure:	Guideline Criteria for Submission:
All new identification cases need to be assessed in the first instance by the Canadian Agency (CA) and submissions should go to their office directly. After an initial assessment, if the Agency feels that the case is compelling, they will then pass all the documentation to the Commemorations Team at the Commission's Head Office. Head Office will then review the case and inform the CA of their findings. The Canadian authorities will then decide whether or not any changes to the arrangements for commemoration are required and inform the Commission accordingly.	Cases need to present clear and convincing evidence to prove the identity of a casualty and must not be based on assumption or speculation. The Commission's Commemoration Team will also consider whether the findings of a better informed contemporary investigation are being revisited and if there is any new evidence to consider. By way of example, it is unlikely that the Commission would support a revision of the arrangements for the commemoration where it is apparent that no new evidence is being presented and, a better informed previous decision is being revisited some 100 years later.

The following have participated in the preparation, review and submission of this report on a voluntary basis. Those noted below have read the investigative report and compared it to the criteria set out by the CWGC, as a guiding principle, and have agreed to have their name included as part of the review team. The CWGC may contact any of the reviewers at the e-mail address provided below.

Name	Affiliation	E-mail	Contribution
Richard Laughton	Private Researcher LMC Great War Research Company	rlaughton@laughton.ca	Report Author
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